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United States
Department of
Agriculture

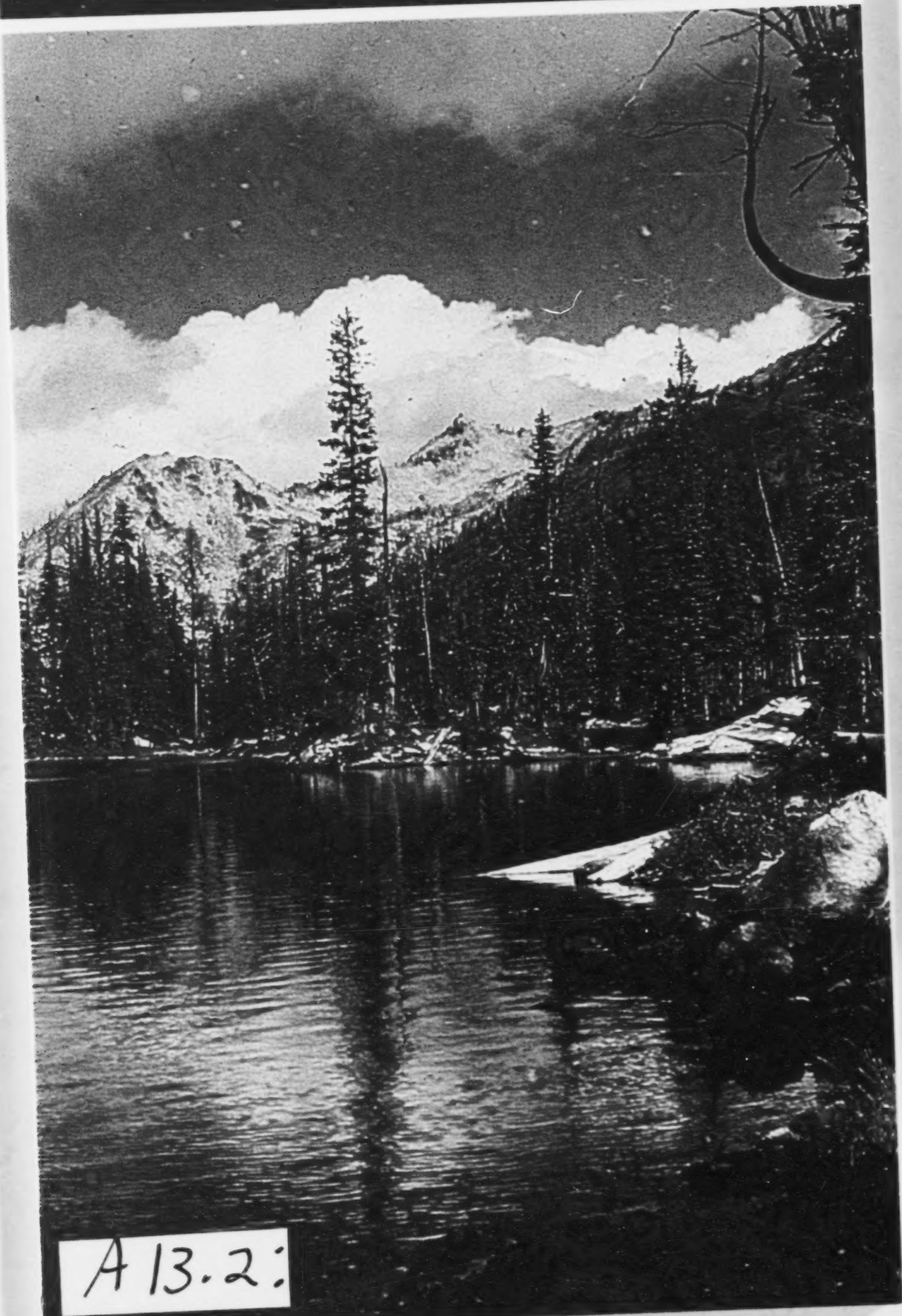
Forest
Service

Intermountain
Region

Ogden, Utah



NATIONAL FORESTS IN IDAHO



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Campfire scents, mingled with pine and a good meal cooked over an open fire, hunting, fishing, snow skiing and water skiing, cool nights and starry skies, bird life, solitude and sunshine, mountain peaks and valleys, trees, streams, rocks and flowers, wood cutting, gold panning, hundreds of hiking trails and dozens of campgrounds—all of this, and more, are yours in Idaho's ten National Forests. Roads for all-terrain vehicles, miles of snowmobile trails, and horse trails make up part of the package available to everyone.

Each Forest offers all this as well as its own version of nature's wonders. Come see for yourself.



Boise

North and east of Idaho's capital city, the mountains and rivers of this lovely forest provide some of the best outdoor recreation opportunities in Idaho. Historic communities and rugged, friendly people make a drive through these mountains an experience to cherish. Whether you like fishing or packing into the backcountry with llamas, there is something here for everyone. Many lakes, rivers, and reservoirs add to the experience.

Pine and fir forests provide a variety in habitat and animals and contain large areas of summer range for big game such as mule deer and Rocky Mountain elk. Native trout live in lakes and streams while ocean-going salmon and steelhead inhabit the many tributaries of the Salmon River.



Caribou

More than one million acres make up Caribou National Forest, created by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1907. The Caribou gets its name, not because there were ever Caribou herds in the area, but from Jesse Fairchild, a gold miner nicknamed "Cariboo Jack." In 1870, Fairchild, who was famous locally for his tall tales of the Canadian Caribou country, and two other men discovered gold near what is now called Caribou Mountain. The resulting gold rush lasted 20 years and produced 50 million dollars worth of placer gold. Abandoned relics of this era can still be found near Caribou Mountain. Minnetonka Cave is another unique feature of "Caribou Country."

Several north-south mountain ranges of the Overthrust Belt, a unique geological resource, characterize the Caribou, offering both timber and sagebrush covered slopes. Near Malad, the Curlew National Grasslands is home to a number of game birds.

Challis

One of the largest National Forests in Idaho, the Challis boasts awesome scenery within its boundaries of 125 miles by 92 miles. Sheer, exposed Borah Peak, Idaho's highest point of 12,622 feet, juts to the sky in the Lost River Range, contrasted by the lower canyon of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River at 3,790 feet. The Middle Fork is one of the original eight rivers designated in the Wild and Scenic River System. This river runs through the Frank Church, River of No Return Wilderness.

Names such as Challis, Clayton, Lost River, and Lemhi stir the imagination of those who appreciate history, gold mining, exploring and adventuring. The Forest also has cooperative agreements with Friends of Custer Museum and the Yankee Fork Gold Dredge Association for the restoration, maintenance, interpretation, and public enjoyment of these historic sites.



Clearwater

Nearly two million acres, composed mainly of deep forested canyons interspersed with high, rugged ridges, make up the Clearwater National Forest in north-central Idaho. Much of the Forest, snowbound December through May but sporting a pleasant summer season, is punctuated with lightning storms in July and August.

Constructed through canyons once accessible only to the most hardy prospectors and trappers, the Lewis and Clark Highway (U.S. 12), a modern, two-lane road, takes you through some of northern Idaho's thick forests, sheer-cliffed cuts through mountainsides, and panoramic views of towering peaks and plunging gorges.

The Lochsa River, popular among kayakers and rafters during peak spring runoff from mid-May through the first week in July, gives you the opportunity to watch experienced white-water enthusiasts pit themselves against nature.

Lolo Motorway and Lewis-Clark National Historical Trail (Highway #500) winds 100 miles along a high divide following the historic Lewis and Clark Expedition Trail.

Idaho Panhandle National Forests

The Coeur d'Alene and portions of the Kaniksu and St. Joe National Forests make up the Idaho Panhandle National Forests. Many of Idaho's 73 species of fish and 425 species of wildlife inhabit the Forest.



Rugged beauty repeats itself in portions of Idaho's most scenic mountain ranges—the Selkirk, Cabinet, Coeur d'Alene and Bitterroot Mountains. Northern Idaho, rich in forested lands, remains open, free, and sparsely populated, inviting everyone to appreciate nature at her finest.

Nez Perce

In north-central Idaho between Oregon and Montana lies the Nez Perce National Forest. Winding within its borders, the Snake River is the deepest and most formidable gorge in North America. At one place in Hell's Canyon between the 9,393-foot He-Devil Mountain and the nearby Snake River, there is a drop of nearly 7,000 vertical feet.

The largest anadromous fish habitat improvement program in the nation exists in this Forest. Hooking a 15-20 pound Chinook salmon or the largest steelhead in the world from the Clearwater or Salmon Rivers thrills anglers.



Trophy elk, whitetail and mule deer, bighorn sheep, moose, mountain goat, black bear, and mountain lion hunting, on your own or with a licensed outfitter, draws hunters from across the nation. Don't overlook the excitement of the area's chukar, hun, grouse, and wild turkey hunting.

Sun and spray! Nez Perce National Forest hosts an exciting sport—whitewater boating. Lured by almost 200 miles of internationally famous Salmon and Selway River whitewater, thousands of private and outfitted rafters, kayakers, and jet-boaters come each year to experience whitewater thrills on Idaho's wild and scenic rivers.

Payette

Some of the last remaining major undeveloped areas of land in the United States exist in the Payette National Forest, stretching nearly across central Idaho. Acres of pristine Wilderness satisfy primitive recreational, scientific, biological, and cultural needs of today's people.

Portions of two designated Wildernesses, The Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness, the largest designated Wilderness outside Alaska, and part of the Hell's Canyon Wilderness, dominate the Payette National Forest.

The Salmon River Wild and Scenic River winds northerly while the Snake River winds westerly. Big game herds, game bird populations, and non-game species inhabit the forest in which you can also gather firewood, mushrooms, berries, and relax in some of the world's finest camping territory.

Salmon

The Salmon National Forest bordered by the Bitterroot Range of the Continental Divide to the east, part of the Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness on the west, Gilmore Summit on the south and Lost Trail Pass on the north features an interesting climate, rough topography, and a rugged reputation.

This spectacular hunk of earth attracts big game hunters, avid fishing fans, daring river runners, and robust outdoorspeople. Salmon River country, isolated from the rest of the world by towering mountains, claims fame as the birthplace of Sacajawea, as a station for the Lewis and Clark expedition, and missionaries, traders, and trappers including Kit Carson and Jedediah Smith.

History and adventure live in these majestic rivers and hills.



Sawtooth

Spreading across south-central Idaho, dipping into Utah, encompassing mountaintops and valley floors, the Sawtooth National Forest, including the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, meets your recreational expectations.

Lakes and rivers, Wilderness and campgrounds, wild game, wild birds, wildflowers, horse trails, bike trails, people trails, and more, abound.

A first visit, yes, but never a last visit to this land of all seasons, all reasons.

Targhee

Hugging the eastern Idaho border in the shadow of the Tetons, slipping into Wyoming, bordering on Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, Targhee National Forest promises you contrasts in peaks at 10,000 feet and desert lands, temperatures from 80° to minus 40°, highlands and lowlands, solitude in the Wilderness and camaraderie in campgrounds and group sports in rivers and lakes. Bring your camera, your rock climbing and collecting paraphernalia, boats, binoculars, and trail supplies.

The dying lodgepole pine, brought about by a mountain pine bark beetle attack, courtesy of Mother Nature, makes a lot of fuelwood available to woodcutters. However, they must obtain a permit to gather their winter fuel supply.

Springs, waterfalls, and high mountain lakes, an opal mine, alpine meadows, and open backcountry make up only part of the Targhee National Forest.



For Additional Information

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Regional Office
324 25th Street
Ogden, Utah 84401
(801) 625-5182

Boise National Forest
1750 Front Street
Boise, Idaho 83702
(208) 364-4100

Caribou National Forest
Federal Building, Suite 282
250 South 4th Avenue
Pocatello, Idaho 83201
(208) 236-7500

Challis National Forest
Highway 93 North
P.O. Box 404
Challis, Idaho 83226
(208) 879-2285

Payette National Forest
106 West Park Street
P.O. Box 1026
McCall, Idaho 83638
(208) 634-8151

Salmon National Forest
Forest Service Building
Highway 93 North
P.O. Box 729
Salmon, Idaho 83467
(208) 756-2215

Sawtooth National Forest
2647 Kimberly Road East
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301-7976
(208) 737-3200

Targhee National Forest
420 North Bridge Street
P.O. Box 208
St. Anthony, Idaho 83445
(208) 624-3151

Northern Region
P.O. Box 7669
Missoula, Montana 59807
(406) 329-3511

Clearwater National Forest
1273 Highway 12
Orofino, Idaho 83544
(208) 476-4541

Idaho Panhandle
National Forests
1201 Ironwood Drive
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814
(208) 765-7223

Nez Perce National Forest
Route 2, Box 475
Grangeville, Idaho 83530
(208) 983-1950

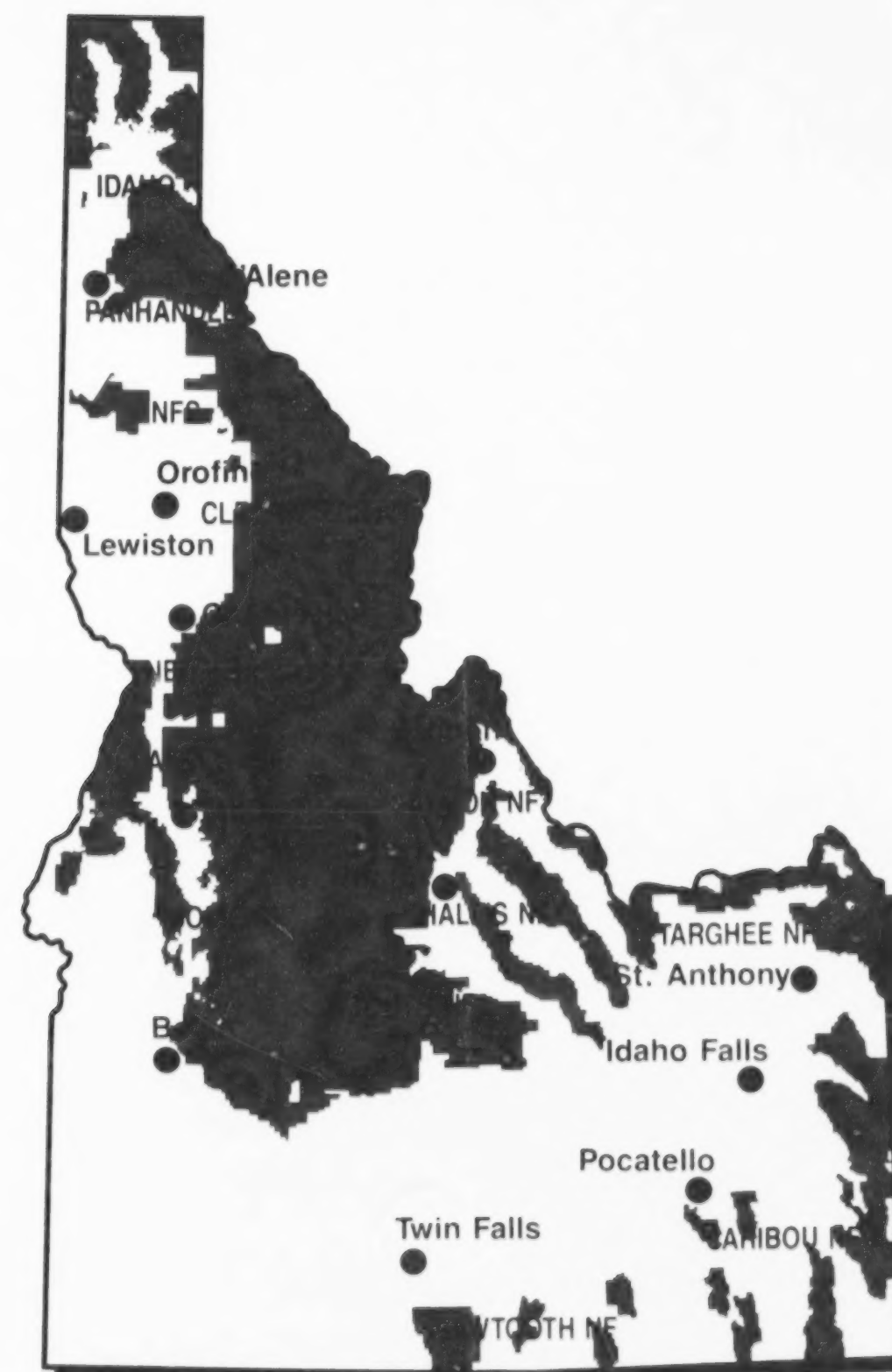
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600 S. Walnut Street
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Idaho Department of
Parks and Recreation
2177 Warm Springs Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83720

Idaho Department
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2nd Floor, Hall of Mirrors
Boise, Idaho 83720

Hells Canyon National
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P.O. Box 490
Enterprise, Oregon 97828

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